



DISTRICT SUCCESS NETWORK NEWSLETTER | OCTOBER 2026

Welcome to the DSN Newsletter and DSN Website!

Hi District Success Network — I'm Lindsay Scurto, Director of SAT® Suite Community Strategy and Implementation, based in Littleton, Colorado. I'm part of the Program Access team alongside Dr. Rashida Savage, and I'm excited to bring you two new spaces at once.

Starting today, both the newsletter and the [DSN website](#) are live. Think of the website as your always-on home base — community posts, past webinar decks, and updates whenever you need them — and this newsletter as your monthly check-in, with stories, news, and things worth acting on. [Explore the DSN website](#)

Before we go further, we want your input. At our September webinar, early responses leaned toward a monthly newsletter cadence — but we want to hear from the full cohort. Take a minute to vote here:

- **Newsletter cadence** — how often you'd like to receive this newsletter
- **Next webinar timing** — our next live session covers practice score reports and the score reporting portal. Would November or January work better for you?

[Vote on newsletter and webinar](#)

KEY DATES AND REMINDERS

Fall assessment window is here: October 1–30

In place of this month's live DSN webinar, we're bringing you this newsletter instead — same goal, different format.

How is your district feeling as testing gets underway? Whether things are running smoothly or you're hitting snags, we want to know. Takes just a few minutes, and if you flag a concern, our team will follow up directly.

[Take the Fall Readiness Survey](#)

Peer Spotlight

Get to know a DSN peer



Kenya Jackson

District Coordinator, College Board Programs
Clark County School District

My role combines project management, customer support leadership, and compliance auditing.

How many students take an SAT Suite exam in your district in the fall?

31,400 students take the PSAT/NMSQT® and 21,750 take the PSAT™ 8/9.

What does your role look like day to day, especially during a busy assessment season like this one?

My role combines project management, customer support leadership, and compliance auditing — with supporting school test coordinators at the forefront.

What's one lesson from running SAT Suite administration at Clark County that you wish you'd known earlier?

The importance of having access to, and being proficient in troubleshooting, SSOR, SSD, and the Test Day Toolkit. The sheer volume of calls from school leadership with issues is enormous.

Is there something your team does that you think other DSN members might want to borrow?

Run professional development sessions — one hour, virtual — covering the why, what, and how of administering the SAT Suite. We offer three:

Getting to Know the SAT Suite Ordering and Registration System

Preparing for the PSAT Test Administration

Understanding the PSAT Score Reports and the Effective Use of Data (AP Potential and Instructional Planning Reports)

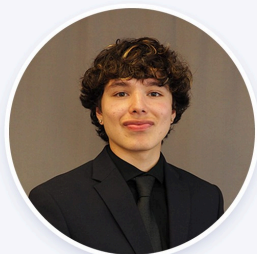
It's a good moment to interject any district-level requirements, and to inspire schools to have their students do their best.

What's something you're proud of or looking forward to this year?

I'm proud that I've seen more vividly the shift that can come with offering the PSAT™ 8/9 to 8th graders and the PSAT/NMSQT® to 10th graders. I attribute part of the district's AP® growth and success over the last five years to the PSAT's positive messaging.

Community Spotlight

A student story from the DSN community



Wenceslado "Wenchie" Medina

DSST: College View, Denver Public Schools

| My PSAT™ score in 10th grade was the turning point.

What was the moment that changed how you thought about your own potential?

My PSAT™ score in 10th grade was the turning point. I hadn't taken school that seriously up to that point, but seeing that I scored in the 98th percentile showed me I had real potential. That score is what made me start taking school seriously.

How did that carry through to the SAT and your path to college?

Once I knew what I was capable of, I focused on my grades and put in the work to prep for the SAT: Khan Academy, a boot camp, study groups with classmates. I took the exam twice, and each time I felt more confident. That process is a big part of why I'm headed to study aerospace engineering.

Was there someone who helped you see this path?

My 11th grade teacher noticed my score and my grades and encouraged me, even though we hadn't really talked before. When I told her I wanted to go to a top school, she didn't laugh, she took it seriously. She eventually asked me to lead our school's 1600 Club, which gave me even more confidence.

What would you tell districts about supporting students like you?

Start the college conversation earlier. At my school, most students don't really start thinking about it until junior year, and by then it can feel late. If districts bring it up sooner, students get more time to realize what's possible and start working toward it.

Straight from the Platform and Policy team

A word with **Mike Polizzi**, Executive Director, K–12 Policy Program and Delivery

As we head into the fall 2026 testing season, we want to take a moment to thank the district leaders of the DSN for your continued partnership and your unwavering commitment to your students' success. Your dedication to the SAT® Suite is making a real difference — and we're working hard to make implementation smoother and more impactful every year.

One of the most powerful tools at your disposal this fall is the Student Readiness Check (SRC):

- ✓ This 30-minute session — flexible enough to fit into homeroom, a free period, or a class — is the single best thing your schools can do before test day.
- ✓ Use it to make sure students know what the SAT unlocks for them: free score sends to colleges, scholarship opportunities, and access to college planning resources through BigFuture®.
- ✓ It's also the right moment to confirm devices are test-ready and to help students configure any tools or accommodations in Bluebook™ — before they're sitting in the testing room.

New this fall: a downloadable lesson plan that makes the SRC easier than ever to implement consistently across your schools.

Thank you for everything you do for your students. We're proud to be your partner this fall.

— Mike

If you run into an issue during the testing window that is very urgent and/or keeping you from testing, please [submit a support request](#). Customer Support can be reached at 866-630-9305 and is available 7:30am-8pm ET Monday-Friday to help with troubleshooting and testing issues as they arise.

This Month's Must-Read

Educator Experience Hub

Everything your staff needs before test day, in one place, organized separately for in-school testing staff and district test coordinators so each role goes straight to what applies to them. Covers testing dates, Bluebook™ setup, and key deadlines.

[Visit the Educator Experience Hub](#)

Fall readiness modules

Self-paced training for your team

- [Understanding the Managing Access Tool](#)
We take students' data privacy seriously. Learn about the access levels to College Board tools and services, identify how access is established, and meet the access manager role and the Managing Access tool they use to grant and manage access.
- [SAT Suite Ordering and Registration \(SSOR\) Training](#)
Explore some or all of the SSOR system for in-school administrations. Covers district and school ordering, uploading and registering students, access to SSOR, and invoicing.
- [K-12 Reporting Portal Course](#)
An overview of the K-12 reporting portal: how to access and navigate it, and how to reach student reports and scores.

- [**Establishing a Professional Educator Account**](#)

Step through creating a College Board educator account. Establishing an educator account will give you greater access to many online College Board tools and services that can assist educators in analyzing and applying College Board programs. To access test day administration training and other related courses for test day preparations you will need an educator account.

Welcome to the network!

New to the DSN

Please join us in welcoming:

- **Columbus City Schools, Ohio**
- **Berkeley County Schools, West Virginia**

Quick Links

Bookmark these

- [**Shout out a DSN peer**](#) — give a colleague some recognition
- [**Update your membership contacts**](#) — add or remove a contact for your district
- [**DSN website**](#) — your home base for resources and updates
- [**Submit a support request**](#) — escalate an urgent testing issue

Missed a readiness webinar? Watch on demand, and feel free to share with your team:

- [**Test Day Toolkit: in-school test day readiness**](#)
- [**SAT Suite ordering and registration**](#)

Get to Know the Program Access Team (PAT)

The people behind the DSN



Program Access gathering at our Reston Office (Yasmine not pictured — she's in her third trimester!)

The DSN is backed by College Board's Program Access Team within College Readiness Assessments — we build channels for your input to shape SAT® Suite access and policy, and to learn from one another along the way. The Program Access Team (PAT) was formed July 17, 2026, and is dedicated to supporting the District Success Network. Our team is led by Senior Director Dr. Rashida Savage, alongside three Directors: Lindsay Scurto, Mandi Isaacs, and Yasmine Bell Floyd, and we operate under the leadership of Ryan Zimmerman, Executive Director of K-12 SAT® Suite Program Management and Partner Success.

We come from a wide range of educational backgrounds and College Board experience, and we're here for one reason: to help this community feel capable, confident, and connected.

In future issues, we'll spotlight more about each team member — stay tuned.

You are receiving this because your district is a member of the SAT Suite District Success Network.

Questions, or something to contribute to the next edition? Email districtsuccessnetwork@collegeboard.org. To change who receives this newsletter at your district, [update your membership contacts](#).

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